

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2023 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 511**

By Senators Woodrum, Deeds, and Hamilton

[Introduced January 30, 2023; referred  
to the Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17A-3-17 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
 2 to ensuring the \$1 service fee for the renewal of vehicle registration is dedicated to the  
 3 county sheriff for contribution to the county general fund and the deputy sheriff's retirement  
 4 system.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 3. ORIGINAL AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION; ISSUANCE OF  
 CERTIFICATES OF TITLE.**

**§17A-3-17. Application for and renewal of registration; sheriffs authorized to issue  
 renewals of registration for certain vehicles.**

1 (a) Application for renewal of a vehicle registration shall be made by the vehicle owner by  
 2 proper application and payment of taxes and registration fees provided by law.

3 (b) The division may receive applications for renewal of any vehicle registration and each  
 4 sheriff shall receive applications from residents in his or her county for renewal of any Class A or G  
 5 vehicle registration. The division and each sheriff shall issue the renewals of registration each  
 6 receives, respectively, in accordance with all of the provisions in this article pertaining to renewal  
 7 of vehicle registration including, but not limited to, the payment of the taxes and fees required  
 8 thereunder.

9 (c) Each renewal of a Class A or G vehicle registration, whether received by the division or  
 10 by the sheriff, is subject to a sheriff shall charge a service fee of \$1. for each renewal of a Class A  
 11 or G vehicle registration he or she issues The fee shall be paid to the sheriff in the county in where  
 12 the vehicle is registered. Effective July 1, 1998, the sheriff shall pay one half of this fee into the  
 13 county general fund. The sheriff shall pay the remaining one half of this fee into the deputy sheriff  
 14 retirement fund created in §7-14D-6 of this code.

15 (d) On the first day of each month, each sheriff shall pay over to the commissioner all fees  
 16 he or she collected during the preceding month for renewal of Class A and G vehicle registrations,

17 except his or her service fees. The payment shall be accompanied by a report showing the name  
18 of the county, the name and address of the person who obtained the registration and paid the  
19 registration fee therefor, the vehicle registered, the registration number, the date the registration  
20 was issued, the signature of the sheriff and any other information the commissioner may  
21 reasonably require in order to maintain the functions and records of the department. The  
22 commissioner shall deposit all fees he or she receives from the sheriffs for renewal of Class A and  
23 G vehicle registrations in the State Treasury to the credit of the state road fund as provided in  
24 section twenty-one, article two of this chapter.

25 (e) The commissioner shall provide each sheriff with the necessary forms, supplies,  
26 registration plates, registration decals and instructions necessary to enable him or her to perform  
27 the duties and functions specified in this section.

28 (f) No person may display upon a vehicle a new registration plate or registration decal prior  
29 to the first day of the month preceding the new registration period.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to ensure the \$1 service fee for the renewal of vehicle registration is dedicated to the county sheriff for contribution to the county general fund and the deputy sheriff's retirement system.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.